This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A closure for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width, the orifice is spaced apart from a longitudinal centerline of the closure;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the contact between the spud and the interior surface of the spout enhances the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface ~~is enhanced by the contact between spud and the spout~~, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

2. (original) The closure of claim 1 further comprising a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, whereby the annular seal and the sealing contact between the spout and the spout cover inhibit vapor infiltration into a head-space within the closure.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The closure of ~~claim 5~~ claim 49 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

7. (currently amended) ~~The closure of claim 1 wherein~~ A closure for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the contact between the spud and the interior surface of the spout enhances the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced by the contact between spud and the spout, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a

distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position, the spout cover includes a spout cover bead extending inwardly from the spout cover interior surface, the spout cover bead engaging the spout exterior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

8. (currently amended) ~~The closure of claim 1 wherein~~ A closure for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the contact between the spud and the interior surface of the spout enhances the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position, the spout includes a spout bead extending outwardly from the spout exterior surface, the spout bead engaging the spout cover

interior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

9. (currently amended) ~~The closure of claim 1 wherein~~ A closure for resealably closing a container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the contact between the spud and the interior surface of the spout enhances the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position, the spout cover includes a spout cover bead extending inwardly from the spout cover interior surface and a spout bead extending outwardly from the spout exterior surface, the spout cover bead engaging the spout exterior surface and the spout bead engaging the spout cover interior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

10. (original) The closure of claim 9 wherein the spout cover bead includes an upper surface, a lower surface, and a tip therebetween, and the spout bead includes an upper surface, a lower surface, and a tip therebetween, the spout cover bead tip contacting the spout exterior surface and the spout bead tip contacting the spout cover interior surface while the cap is in the closed position.

11. (original) The closure of claim 10 wherein the spout cover bead upper surface contacts the spout bead lower surface while the cap is in the closed position such that the spout cover is locked onto the spout.

12. (original) The closure of claim 9 wherein the spout is continuous about the orifice.

13. (original) The closure of claim 12 wherein the spout cover is continuous about the spout while the cap is in the closed position.

14. (original) The closure of claim 13 wherein the spout bead is continuous about the spout and the spout cover bead is continuous about the spout cover.

15. (previously presented) The closure of claim 1 wherein the cap further includes a thumb tab extending outwardly from the sidewall.

16. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the top deck is substantially circular and the skirt is substantially cylindrical.

17. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the hinge includes a flexible web including a first end coupled to the skirt and an opposing second end coupled to the cover sidewall, the web capable of urging the cap toward either one of the open position or the closed position, whereby the hinge is a snap action hinge.

18. (currently amended) The closure of claim 9 wherein the body includes an annular recess formed at a periphery of the top deck, the annular recess including a seating surface, a distal lip of the ~~cover~~ cap sidewall contacting the seating surface upon the spout cover bead engaging the spout cover bead to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

19. (original) The closure of claim 1 wherein the orifice is a slot including substantially parallel opposing sides and curved ends therebetween.

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A container package including:

a container including a container body, a neck disposed on the container body, and container threads formed on an exterior surface of the neck; and

a closure for resealably closing the container, the closure comprising:

a closure body including a top deck, a skirt downwardly depending from a periphery of the top deck, an elongated orifice formed in the top deck, and a spout extending upwardly from the top deck substantially coextensive with the orifice, the skirt including closure threads disposed thereon, the elongated orifice including a length that is greater than its width, the orifice is spaced apart from a longitudinal centerline of the closure;

a cap including a lid member, a cap sidewall extending downwardly from a periphery of the lid member, a spud, and a spout cover extending downwardly from the lid member, an interior surface of the spout cover receiving the spout therein, the

spout cover interior surface and an exterior surface of the spout forming a sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in a closed position thereby forming an outside seal relative to the spout, the spud extending downwardly from the lid member substantially within the spout cover and spaced apart therefrom, an exterior surface of the spud contacting an interior surface of the spout while the closure is in the closed position, the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced by the contact between the spud and the spout, the spout cover has a height measured from the lid member that is greater than a height of the spud such that a distal edge of the spout cover extends below a distal tip of the spud while the closure is in its closed position; and

a hinge coupled between the body and the cap for enabling actuation of the cap relative to the body between an open position in which the spout cover is disengaged with the spout and the closed position in which the spout cover is engaged with the spout,

whereby the orifice enables dispensing of container contents therethrough while the cap is the open position and the spout cover prevents dispensing of the container contents while the cap is in the closed position.

23. (original) The container package of claim 22 further comprising a liner disposed between a rim of the container neck and the closure body and a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, the annular seal forming a seal between the liner and the closure body.

24. (previously presented) The container package of claim 22 wherein the annular seal includes a projection including an angular tip formed thereon that deforms a portion of the liner.

25. (canceled)

26. (previously presented) The container package of claim 22 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.

27. (canceled)

28. (canceled)

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (previously presented) The closure of claim 1 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

32. (previously presented) The closure of claim 31 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

33. (previously presented) The container package of claim 22 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

34. (previously presented) The container package of claim 33 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

35. (canceled)

36. (canceled)

37. (canceled)

38. (canceled)

39. (canceled)

40. (canceled)

41. (canceled)

42. (canceled)

43. (canceled)

44. (canceled)

46. (canceled)

47. (canceled)

48. (canceled)

49. (new) The closure of claim 1 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

50. (new) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spout cover includes a spout cover bead extending inwardly from the spout cover interior surface, the spout cover bead engaging the spout exterior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

51. (new) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spout includes a spout bead extending outwardly from the spout exterior surface, the spout bead engaging the spout cover interior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

52. (new) The closure of claim 1 wherein the spout cover includes a spout cover bead extending inwardly from the spout cover interior surface and a spout bead extending outwardly from the spout exterior surface, the spout cover bead engaging the spout exterior surface and the spout bead engaging the spout cover interior surface to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

53. (new) The closure of claim 52 wherein the spout cover bead includes an upper surface, a lower surface, and a tip therebetween, and the spout bead includes an upper surface, a lower surface, and a tip therebetween, the spout cover bead tip contacting the spout

exterior surface and the spout bead tip contacting the spout cover interior surface while the cap is in the closed position.

54. (new) The closure of claim 53 wherein the spout cover bead upper surface contacts the spout bead lower surface while the cap is in the closed position such that the spout cover is locked onto the spout.

55. (new) The closure of claim 52 wherein the spout is continuous about the orifice.

56. (new) The closure of claim 55 wherein the spout cover is continuous about the spout while the cap is in the closed position.

57. (new) The closure of claim 56 wherein the spout bead is continuous about the spout and the spout cover bead is continuous about the spout cover.

58. (new) The closure of claim 1 wherein the body includes an annular recess formed at a periphery of the top deck, the annular recess including a seating surface, a distal lip of the cap sidewall contacting the seating surface upon the spout cover bead engaging the spout cover bead to form sealing contact therebetween while the cap is in the closed position.

59. (new) The closure of claim 7 further comprising a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, whereby the annular seal and the sealing contact between the spout and the spout cover inhibit vapor infiltration into a head-space within the closure.

60. (new) The closure of claim 7 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.

61. (new) The closure of claim 7 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is

in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

62 (new). The closure of claim 61 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

63. (new) The closure of claim 7 wherein the cap further includes a thumb tab extending outwardly from the sidewall.

64. (new) The closure of claim 7 wherein the top deck is substantially circular and the skirt is substantially cylindrical.

65. (new) The closure of claim 7 wherein the hinge includes a flexible web including a first end coupled to the skirt and an opposing second end coupled to the cover sidewall, the web capable of urging the cap toward either one of the open position or the closed position, whereby the hinge is a snap action hinge.

66. (new) The closure of claim 7 wherein the orifice is a slot including substantially parallel opposing sides and curved ends therebetween.

67. (new) The closure of claim 8 further comprising a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, whereby the annular seal and the sealing contact between the spout and the spout cover inhibit vapor infiltration into a head-space within the closure.

68. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.

69. (new) The closure of claim 8 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

70 (new). The closure of claim 69 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

71. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the cap further includes a thumb tab extending outwardly from the sidewall.

72. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the top deck is substantially circular and the skirt is substantially cylindrical.

73. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the hinge includes a flexible web including a first end coupled to the skirt and an opposing second end coupled to the cover sidewall, the web capable of urging the cap toward either one of the open position or the closed position, whereby the hinge is a snap action hinge.

74. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the orifice is a slot including substantially parallel opposing sides and curved ends therebetween.

75. (new) The closure of claim 9 further comprising a continuous, annular seal extending downwardly from an underside of the deck, whereby the annular seal and the sealing contact between the spout and the spout cover inhibit vapor infiltration into a head-space within the closure.

76. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the spud is elongate and continuous.

77. (new) The closure of claim 8 further comprising an other spud extending upwardly from the top deck substantially around the spout and spaced apart therefrom, an interior surface of the other spud contacting an exterior surface of the spout cover while the closure is in the closed position, whereby the sealing contact between the spout cover interior surface and the spout exterior surface is enhanced.

78. (new). The closure of claim 77 wherein the other spud is elongate and continuous.

79. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the cap further includes a thumb tab extending outwardly from the sidewall.

80. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the top deck is substantially circular and the skirt is substantially cylindrical.

81. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the hinge includes a flexible web including a first end coupled to the skirt and an opposing second end coupled to the cover sidewall, the web capable of urging the cap toward either one of the open position or the closed position, whereby the hinge is a snap action hinge.

82. (new) The closure of claim 8 wherein the orifice is a slot including substantially parallel opposing sides and curved ends therebetween.